

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

SEP 07 2005

PATENT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Johann J. Neisz et al Examiner: Gilbert, Samuel  
Serial No. 10/675,816 Group Art Unit: 3736  
Filing Date: September 30, 2003 Docket No.: 250882US-71 CONT  
Title: SURGICAL ARTICLES AND METHODS

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:** I hereby certify that this RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT and any papers described herein, are being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service, as first class mail, addressed to Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this \_\_\_ day of September, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name

**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

Entry of this response and amendment filed in response to the Final Office Action dated June 8, 2005, is respectfully requested.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper:

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 16 of this paper.